In the Specification

Amend paragraph [0024] as follows:

[0024]   The present invention employs a mathematical construct, i.e., a Voronoi diagram, to determine initial placement of the sub-resolution assist features, or SRAFs. A Voronoi diagram of a collection of geometric objects is a partition of space into cells, each of which consists of the points closer to one particular object or shape than to any others.   The Voronoi diagram identifies ~~pair-wise~~ pair-wise interaction between shapes, and provides information about the neighborhood of a shape.   The shared boundaries of adjacent Voronoi cells, between shape edges, are also referred to herein as Voronoi bisectors, or simply bisectors, since they establish the midpoint between adjacent edges of the circuit shapes to be projected.   The bisectors are defined to be the locus of points equidistant from edges of adjacent shapes.   "Equidistant" is defined relative to a distance metric.   In the preferred embodiment of the present invention, the L-infinity metric is used: